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NEOTROPICAL MICROLEPIDOPTERA, X¹
SYSTEMATIC POSITION OF TWO TAXA
ERRONEOUSLY PLACED IN THE FAMILY STENOMIDAE
(LEPIDOPTERA)

By W. DONALD DUCKWORTH
Associate Curator, Division of Lepidoptera

Revisionary studies presently being conducted on the Stenomidae have revealed two incorrectly placed taxa. One, a monobasic genus, is transferred to the Tortricidae; the other represents a new genus and is transferred to the Oecophoridae.

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Family Oecophoridae

Mattea, new genus

Type species: *Cryptolechia phoenissa* Butler, 1883, Trans. Ent. Soc. London, 1883, p. 81; pl. 11, figs. 12, 12a.

Head with appressed scales; lateral tufts spreading; antenna simple in female, finely ciliated ventrally in male; basal segment with pecten; labial palpus recurved, just reaching base of antenna. Forewing with costa slightly arched, termen oblique, tornus rounded; 11 veins; 2 well before angle; 7 and 8 coincident to termen; remainder separate. Hindwing as broad as forewing; 8 veins; 3 and 4 connate; 6 and 7 subparallel.

Male genitalia: Uncus present, well developed. Gnathos a lightly sclerotized, simple band. Anellus a simple plate. Harpe with clasper. Aedeagus with inception of ductus ejaculatorius near midpoint.

Female genitalia: Genital plate reduced to a thin, sclerotized band. Bursa copulatrix reduced, signum absent.

Remarks: The exact position of this genus in the family Oecophoridae is virtually impossible to ascertain until a revision of the Neotropical species is undertaken. In addition, careful attention to the Australian and New Zealand fauna will be necessary since the distributional relationships between these areas and the west coast of South America are poorly understood.

The genus is distinguished by veins 7 and 8 of the forewing being coincident to the termen. Coincidence of veins 7 and 8 is not uncommon in the family, but the termination in other genera is on the costa. The genitalia present a number of striking characters, such as the inception of the ductus ejaculatorius being near the midpoint of the aedeagus and the presence of a reduced bursa copulatrix in the females. However, the genital characters of the Neotropical genera are still poorly known, and until they are studied no definite conclusions can be drawn.

Mattea phoenissa (Butler), new combination

FIGURE 1; PLATE 1 (FIG. a)

Cryptolechia phoenissa Butler, 1883, Trans. Ent. Soc. London, 1883, p. 81, pl. 11, figs. 12, 12a.

The original description of this species is quite accurate and reads as follows: "Wings sericeous carmine-red; primaries above with a small triangular golden spot at outer third of dorsal margin; fringe at apex tipped with bright ochreous; thorax purplish brown; antennae

carmine; palpi whitish; abdomen dark brown; wings below of a clearer carmine-red than above; base of secondaries and pectus bronze-brown; legs and venter whitish-brown. Expanse of wings, 16 mm.

In addition to the characters given in the original description, the details of the wing venation, head, and male and female genitalia are illustrated in figures 1*a-e*.

Type: In the British Museum (Natural History).

Type locality: Corral, Chile.

Distribution: Chile: Corral; Llanquihue, Peulla (March); Centro-Austral (Jan.-Mar.).

Remarks: This species was described originally in the family Gelechiidae, and this association was followed by Calvert (1886) in his catalog of Chilean Lepidoptera. Busck (1934) listed the species as *Stenoma phoenissa* in his catalog of the family Stenomidae, and this combination has persisted until now. Examination of the type specimen, however, clearly indicates that the genus should be placed in the Oecophoridae. The remote position of veins 6 and 7 in the hindwing and the presence of pecten on the basal segment of the antenna are both good oecophorid characters which are not found in the Stenomidae.

Family Tortricidae
Subfamily Sparganothiinae
Rhynchophyllis Meyrick

FIGURE 2; PLATE 1 (FIG. b)

Rhynchophyllis Meyrick, 1932, Exotic Microlepidoptera, vol. 4, pp. 288-289.

Type species: *Rhynchophyllis categorica* Meyrick, by monotypy.

This monobasic genus was established for a new species, *R. categorica*, described from a single female specimen from Jaragua, "Santa Catharina" (Santa Catarina), Brazil. Meyrick included the genus in the Xyloryctidae (=Stenomidae) with the following comment: "A highly peculiar insect; the hindwings are normal for the Xyloryctidae, to which therefore it must be referred, but the rest of the structure is very abnormal; possibly there is some relationship to *Falculina*, which is suggested by the superficial appearance, but this may be delusive." Examination of the type specimen in the Natural History Museum, Vienna, Austria, which remains the only known example of this species, clearly indicates its proper placement in the Tortricidae rather than in the Stenomidae. The correct systematic position within the Tortricidae must await a revision of the Neotropical members of the family. On the basis of the ribbon-like signum, the genus is tentatively assigned to the subfamily Sparganothiinae.

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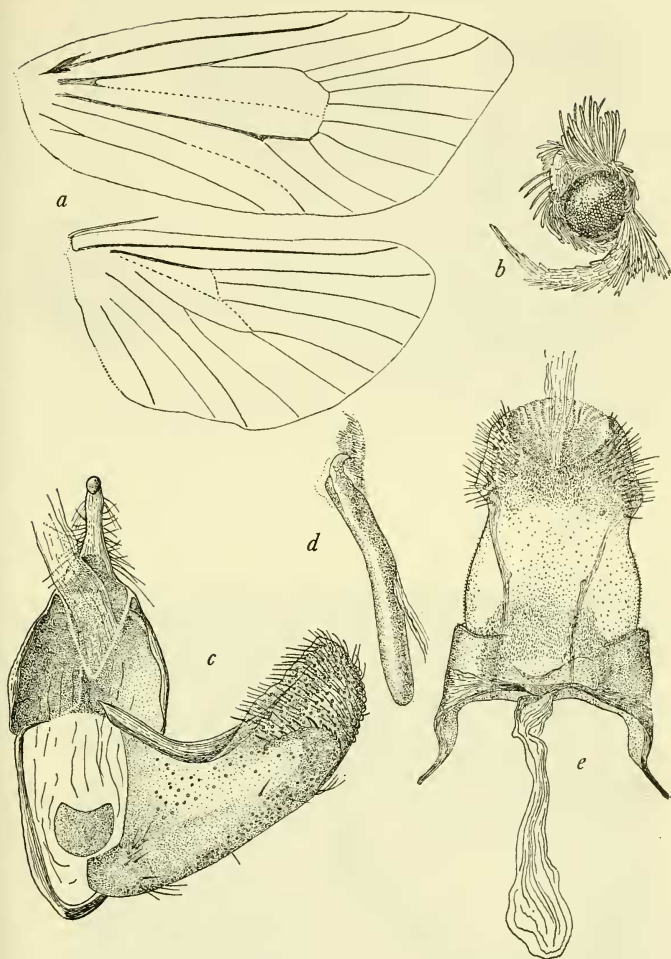


FIGURE 1.—*Mattea phoenissa* (Butler): *a*, wing venation; *b*, lateral view of head; *c*, male genitalia; *d*, aedeagus; *e*, female genitalia.

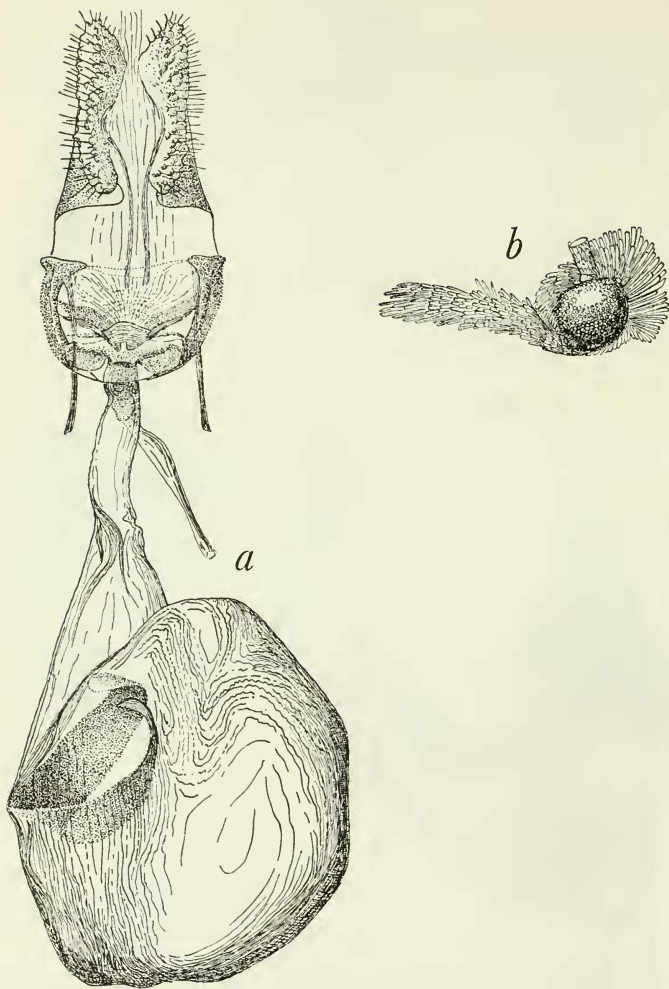


FIGURE 2.—*Rhynchophyllis categorica* Meyrick: *a*, female genitalia; *b*, lateral view of head.